FIDM 4.6

REPORT NO. 77-3-37

FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT UNIT
U.S. FOREST SERVICE
DORAVILLE, GEORGIA

REPORT OF AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Ouachita National Forest, Caddo and Mena (south of Mena) Ranger Districts

STATE: Arkansas

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 300,000 acres

DATE SURVEYED: 8/18/77

PERCENT COVERAGE: 50%

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 182

CREW: C. W. Dull
R. F. Bassett
P. A. Mistretta

SURVEY OBJECTIVES: To re-evaluate the status of southern pine beetle activity on the Mena and Caddo Ranger Districts. An aerial and ground survey conducted by the Aerial Survey Team, Insect and Disease Management Unit, during February and March 1977 confirmed the presence of southern pine beetle infestations within the survey area. The current survey was conducted to provide information on the status of the southern pine beetle populations since the previous survey.

SURVEY RESULTS

A total of 16 spots of red and fading pines was observed within the survey area. One spot containing approximately 25 trees was detected near Hurricane Knob along Forest Route 912. Another spot containing five fading pine trees was observed in an inaccessible area south of West Hanna Mountain, north of Forest Route 31. The remaining spots contained only one to three trees each. The location and size of each spot are shown on the attached maps.

Large areas of red and fading pines were observed on private lands south and west of the Ouachita National Forest. Large spots were also detected northeast of Broken Bow Lake in Oklahoma.

CONCLUSIONS

The results of this aerial survey reveal a 30% reduction in the total number of spots detected and a 45% reduction in the total number of red and fading pines observed on the previous survey.

This indicates a decrease in southern pine beetle activity on the Mena and Caddo Ranger Districts. Personnel from these Districts have been conducting a suppression project by removing infested trees. However, the widely distributed locations of the spots detected and the abundance of pine host type in the area indicate that favorable conditions for population increase still exists on the Mena and Caddo Ranger Districts.

For any additional information, Contact

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USFS - Southeastern Area

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OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

CADDO AND MENA RANGER DISTRICTS

SURVEY DATE 8/18/77

Scale
Miles 0 1 2

Fig. 1.

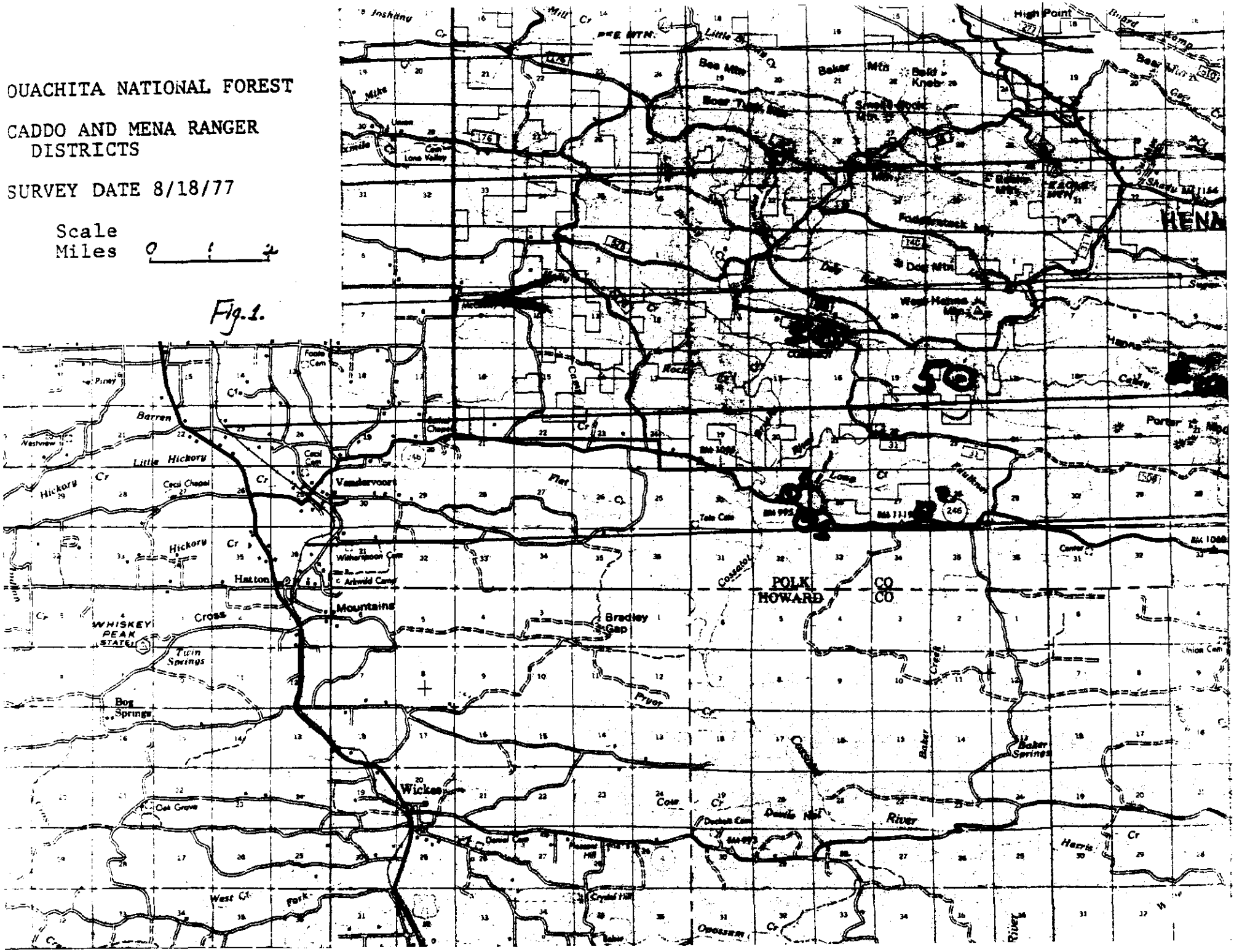

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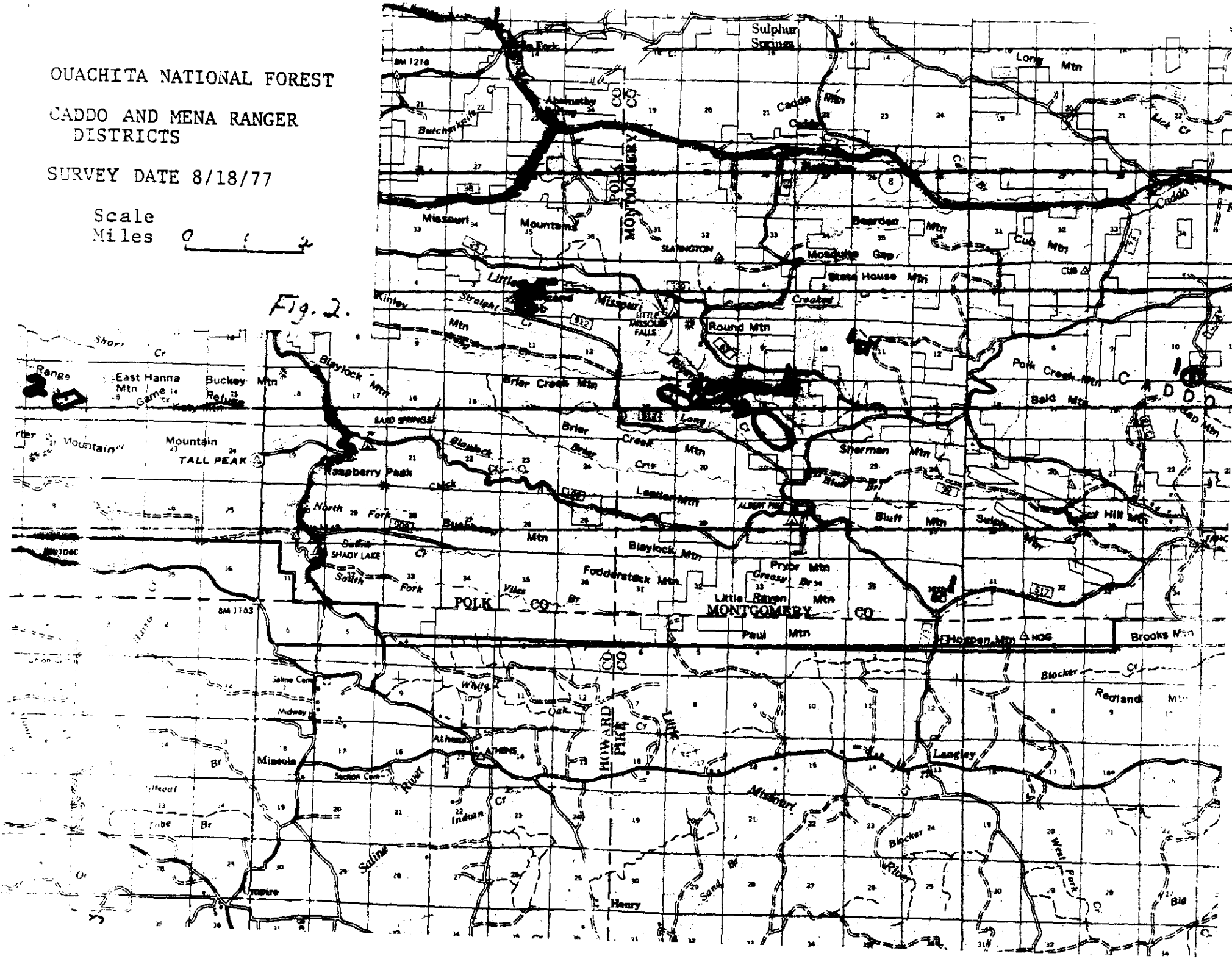
Fig. 2.



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Scale
Miles 0 1 2

Fig. 3.

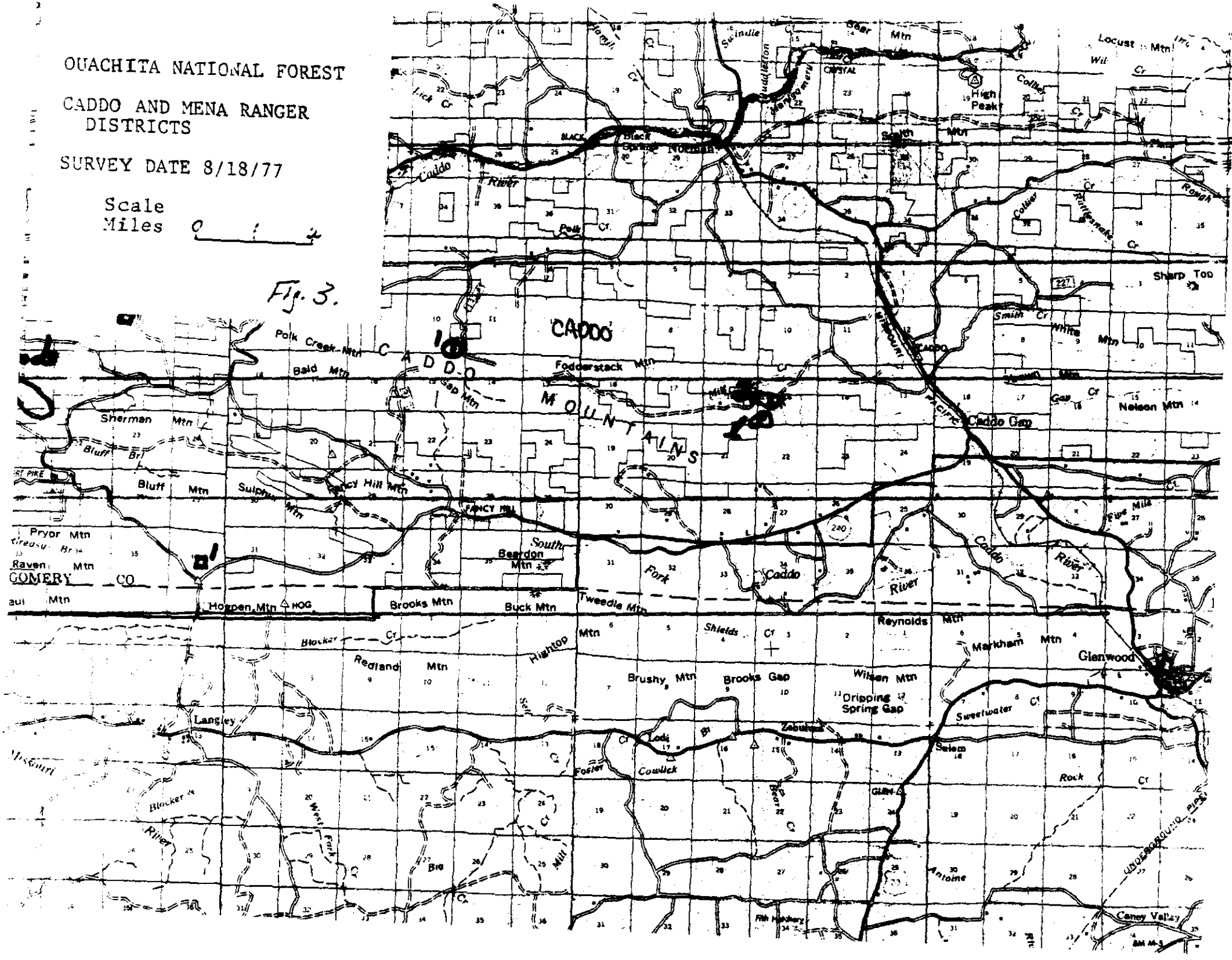

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Fig. 4.